

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ☐  
no ☐

Property Name: Valentine's Lodge Inventory Number: WO-580  
Address: Assateague Island, Maryland City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: 21811  
County: Worcester USGS Topographic Map: Whittington Point, MD  
Owner: United States of America Is the property being evaluated a district? ☐ yes  
Tax Parcel Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Map Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Account ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Project: Hunting Lodge & Retention Properties Agency: National Park Service  
Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Is the property located within a historic district? ☐ yes ☒ no

If the property is within a district

District Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_

NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐ yes District Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☐ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☐ yes ☒ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Historic Context Study of Waterfowl Hunting Camps and Related Properties within Assateague Island National Seashore, MD & VA. Eschelman, R.E. and P.A. Russell. 2004

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)

Physical Description of Structures: Valentines Lodge is a one and one-half story wood frame on pilings structure built in 1966. The building is 24' x 36', for a total square footage of 1,296 sq ft. The interior space includes four bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen and living room. The exterior is sheathed with cedar shingles with an asphalt shingle roof. Other structures on the property included a wooden boardwalk and small frame storage shed. These structures, along with a porch/deck attached to the main building were removed from the property in 2002 owing to their advanced state of deterioration and associated safety hazard.

Prepared by: Carl S. Zimmerman

Date Prepared: 3/28/2012

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Reviewer, NR Program

Date

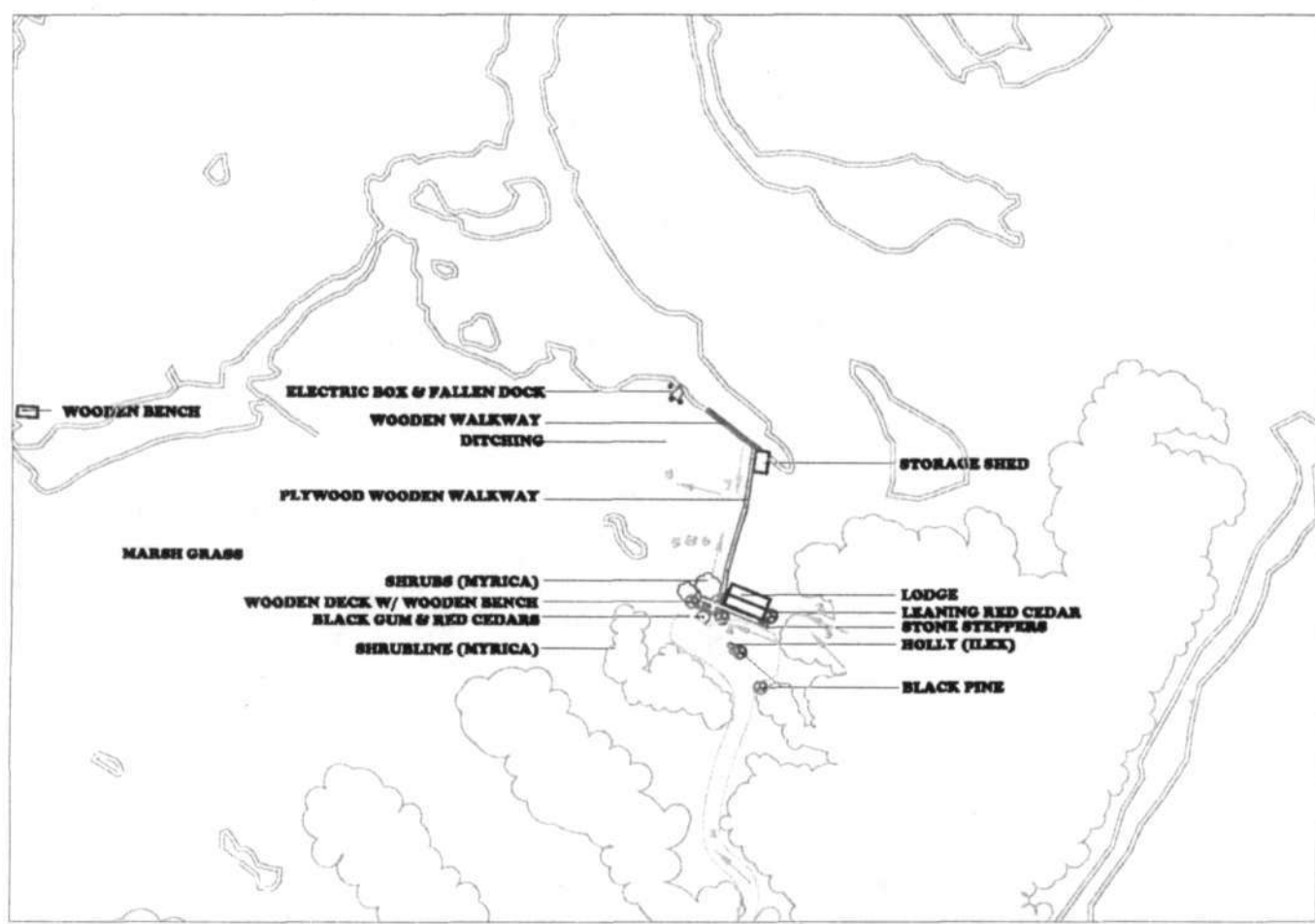
Date

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# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

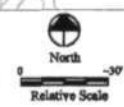
Continuation Sheet No. 1

## Existing Conditions Map



SOURCES:  
1997 Aerial photography  
Field observation

- SHRUB/TREE LINE
- EVERGREEN
- BUILDING
- SHORELINE
- POST OR POLE
- PHOTOGRAPH DIRECTION & NUMBER



**VALENTINE LODGE  
EXISTING CONDITIONS MAP**  
Hunting Lodge Properties Study-Assateague Island National Seashore  
National Park Service-Philadelphia Support Office  
August 2000

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**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Continuation Sheet No. 2

**Brief History**

**Valentine's** (also called Whittington Point and Valentine and Hughes) (1961)

Deeds dated July 29, 1959, and June 24, 1960, for tract 6-514 mention "marginal gunning property." A 1968 appraisal report states "there are a total of 10 duck blinds spotted throughout this tract, 4 of which are built up on pilings in the Bay or large slough areas . . . two sunken blinds with concrete floor . . . and 4 other stake and brush blinds." A 1968 appraisal supplement retention states "use of 148 acres for hunting purposes." A 1969 appraisal refers to a "one and one-half story frame cottage designed as a lodge. This cottage has been recently rebuilt, replacing a former cottage destroyed by fire . . ." A 1971 deed mentions a "single-family residence . . . used for noncommercial residential purposes and for hunting."

The Valentine property consists of about 169.84 acres of which 147.49 acres are above mean high water. The tract contains some thirty-two separate parcels, of which twenty-four are small islands ranging from 0.01 to approximately 8.0 acres in size, comprising about 2.5 miles of Chincoteague Bay waterfront. The lodge was begun by C. Braxton Valentine, Jr., of Richmond, Virginia, famous for the Valentine's Meatjuice Company, and apparently four others, one named Hughes. One account referred to the lodge as Valentine and Hughes. Before the lodge was built they would stay on board their fishing boat. Valentine's never operated as a commercial enterprise. The first wood frame one-and-one-half-story structure was begun on this tract in 1963 and completed in 1964. The setting is in a rustic meadow. It was set on piles and described as a "small 3 bedroom gunning shack." One had to climb stairs to get into the lodge which was heated by a wood stove. Wood was either gathered from the beach or hauled by boat. One former guest recalled "we all ate and enjoyed life and drank beer." Bunks were all around the large combination kitchen-big room. During 1965 at least six break-ins were reported; these were believed to be attributed to the opening of the Verrazano Bridge. Because vandals continually tore down property signs none were posted in 1966 and public hunters trespassed on the Valentine property. The lodge was burned by vandals February 28, 1966. A rebuilding permit was obtained in August 1966. Braxton bought out the other four members after they lost interest due to the fire. It was stated Valentine planned to build "exactly what we had before." While he built the new house on the same foundation around the original chimney which survived the fire, it apparently was not quite as nice.

The standing structure was probably built in late 1966. In 1967 suspected deer and duck hunting violations were noted to have occurred on the property. Squatters built illegal duck blinds on property immediately behind Valentine's. The lodge operated ten duck blinds on its property in 1968. The property was acquired the US Government in 1971. The caretaker of the house and property from 1963 to 1996 was Harry Birch of Chincoteague who replaced Lewis White who preceded him. Birch also hunted with C. Braxton Valentine, Jr. Birch, Bruce Jester, and "Super Guide" David Cropper guided. The cook, Edward "Eddie" Quillin, also called "Capt. Ed," occasionally guided as well. Quillin's uncle was the manager of Pope's Island Gun Club. Capt Ed and Harry slept in the two bedrooms in the upper half-story of the lodge. In later years members took turns cooking in the kitchen which occupied one corner of the kitchen-big room. David Cropper, who worked at the lodge, stated Braxton was "Real big in the Republican Party and they gunned everything from politicians to businessmen . . . astronauts, . . . diamond brokers . . . people from American's Cup." The lodge was robbed of all valuable decoys during summer of 1989. The diamond broker had a phone line put in at Valentine's so he could hunt while carrying out his million dollar diamond deals. The lodge was referred to as "Whittington Point" after Valentine conveyed joint interest to Robin Reeder Valentine, Reuben Clark, and David G. Hanes in 1984. Whittington Point is the name of the northern most island among the Pirate Islands just north of the Valentine lodge and a part of the Valentine property.

Excerpted from:

Eschelman, R.E. and P.A. Russell. 2004. Historic Context Study of Waterfowl Hunting Camps and Related Properties within Assateague Island National Seashore, Maryland and Virginia. National Park Service, Berlin, MD.

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**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Continuation Sheet No. 3

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**Eligibility Recommendation**

The Valentine's Lodge property was a private, non-membership residence where waterfowl hunting was conducted on a regular basis and, as such, is associated with the historic context of commercial and recreational hunting on Assateague Island. Although used primarily for waterfowl hunting, the property does not appear to have played a significant role in the history of hunting on Assateague Island. The existing lodge (built in 1966 to replace a two year old building destroyed by fire) was in private ownership for less than five years when in 1971 it was purchased by the federal government. Although the owners retained use and occupancy rights until 1996, the influence of government ownership and park management was such that the Lodge's use during that period cannot be said to reflect traditional practices. The property has no known association with significant persons. While the relationship of the lodge to the adjacent natural landscape is highly characteristic, the architecture of the structure lacks any noteworthy design or construction qualities. The property contains the remains of several characteristic features including wood walkways, a boat dock, and storage sheds but all are in an advanced state of deterioration. Because the design, construction, and use of materials are commonplace, the Lodge has no potential to yield important information about human history. For these reasons, the Valentine's Lodge property is considered to be without historical significance and therefore **ineligible** for the National Register of Historic Places

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 4

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**Bibliography**

Eschelman, R.E. and P.A. Russell. 2004. Historic Context Study of Waterfowl Hunting Camps and Related Properties within Assateague Island National Seashore, MD & VA. National Park Service. Berlin, MD. 103 pages.

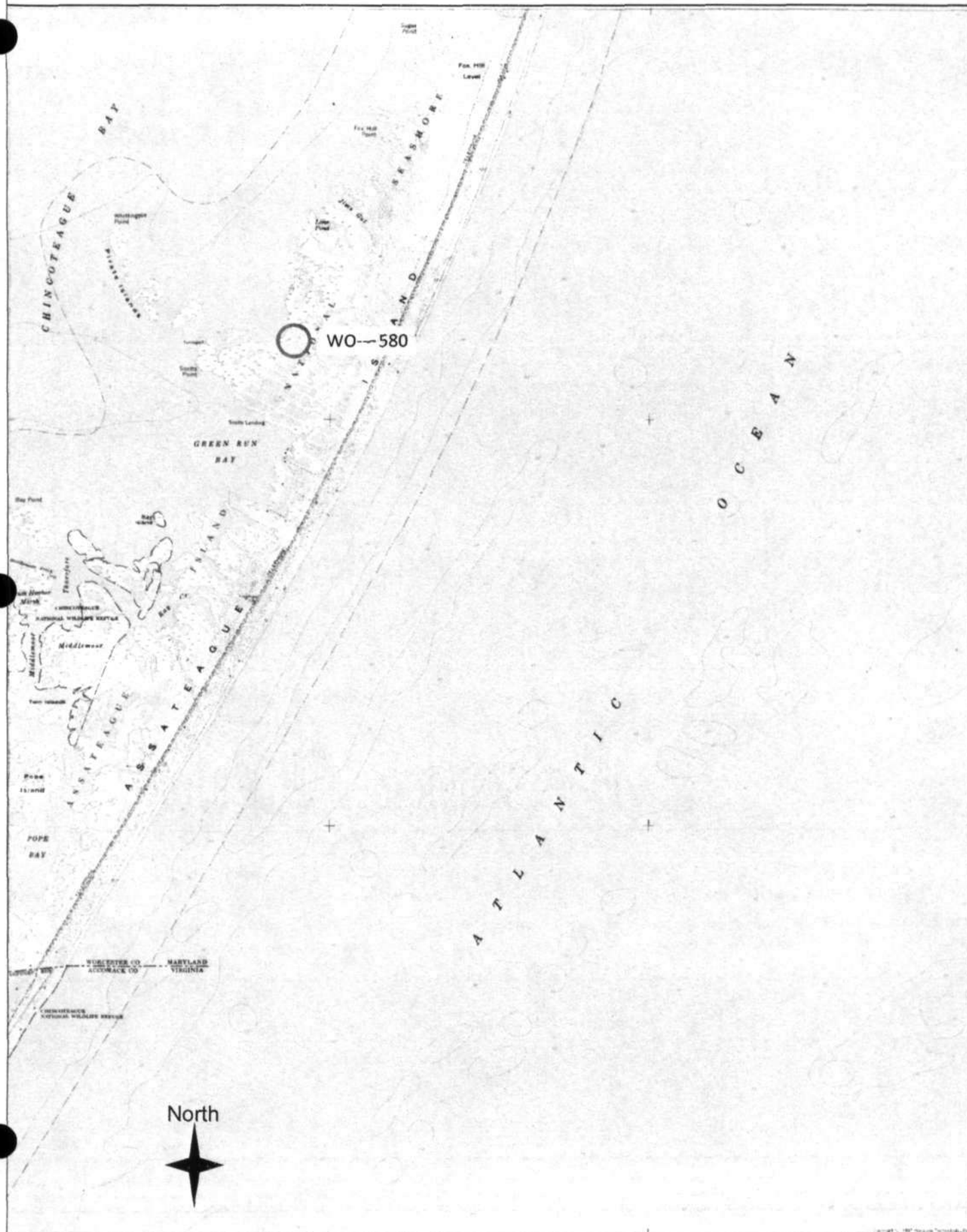
National Park Service. 2000. Cultural Landscape Field Survey, Hunting Lodge Properties Determination of Eligibility Study, Assateague Island National Seashore. Berlin, MD. 38 pages.

National Park Service. 2012. Deed and Land Record Files, Assateague Island National Seashore. Berlin, MD

**WO-580 Valentine's Lodge**

Assateague Island, Worcester County, Maryland

USGS Topographic Quadrangle - Whittington Point



**WO- 580      Valentine's Lodge**

**Photograph Log**

<b>Image File Name</b>	<b>Image Description</b>
WO-0580_2007-6-18_01.tif	View of Valentines Lodge from the east
WO-0580_2007-6-18_02.tif	East and south sides of the Lodge
WO-0580_2007-6-18_03.tif	South side of the Lodge showing main entrance
WO-0580_2007-6-18_04.tif	South and west sides of the Lodge
WO-0580_2007-6-18_05.tif	West side of the Lodge
WO-0580_2007-6-18_06.tif	North side of the Lodge
WO-0580_2007-6-18_07.tif	Former walkway to boat dock and storage shed
WO-0580_2007-6-18_08.tif	View of former walkway & dock from north side of Lodge

**Notes:**

All photographic prints created using Epson Claria ink and Epson Ultra Premium Photo Paper Glossy  
Digital image files saved on Delkin Devices Archival Gold® CD-R (Phthalocyanine dye)





WD-580 Valentine's Lodge

1 of 8

Worcester County, MD

Photo by Andrew Roach, NPS

6/18/2007

View of Valentine's Lodge From the East

WD-0580\_2007-6-18\_01.TIF



WD-580 Valentine's Lodge

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Worcester County, MD

Photo by Andrew Roach, NPS

6/18/2007

East and south sides of lodge

WD-0580\_2007-6-18\_02.TIF



WO-580 Valentine's Lodge

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Worcester County, MD

Photo by Andrew Roach, NPS

6/18/2007

South side of lodge showing main entrance

WO-0580\_2007-6-18\_03.TIF



WD-580 Valentine's Lodge

448

Worcester County, MD

Photo by Andrew Roach, NPS

6/18/2007

South and west sides of Lodge

WD-0580\_2007-6-18\_04.TIF





WD-580 Valentine's Lodge

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Worcester County, MD

Photo by Andrew Roach, NPS

6/18/2007

West side of Lodge

WD-0580\_2007-6-18\_05.TIF



WD-580 Valentine's Lodge

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Worcester County, MD

Photo by Andrew Roach, NPS

6/18/2007

North side of Lodge

WD-0580\_2007-6-18\_06.TIF



WO-580 Valentine's Lodge 7 of 8  
Worcester County, MD  
Photo by Andrew Roach, NPS  
6/18/2007  
Former walkway to boat dock and storage shed  
WO-0580\_2007-6-18\_07.TIF



WD-580 Valentine's Lodge

8 p 8

Worcester County, MD

Photo by Andrew Roach, NPS

6/18/2007

View of Former Walkway and dock from  
North side of Lodge

WD-0580\_2007-6-18\_08.TIF